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**From:** Bob Crawford [mailto:rk Crawford2001@yahoo.com]

**Sent:** Thursday, February 17, 2005 3:20 PM

**To:** MLPAComments@resources.ca.gov

**Cc:** YScuba

**Subject:** MLPAComments: Marine Study Area Recommendation

We have studied areas on Schneider Bank which lies about 3 miles west of Pt. Sur in 1988-89 and again in Sep-Oct 2004 and 2005 (six months hence) and collected flora, fauna and sediments in the 140 - 190 fsw range on both occasions for study at UC Berkeley (Paul Silva, Ph.D. - sea plants) and at the L.A. Museum of Natural History (animals and sediments). This is an area that sits just east of the abyss and represents a unique underwater environment worthy of much additional study and protection.

We have also performed exploratory dives to the south along the Big Sur Coast for some 10 miles or so, and this area still has much to be explored and documented.

Please include these in any protected areas. Thank you for your consideration.

Robert Schneider, Ph.D., and Rober K. Crawford

Bob Crawford